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PATENT



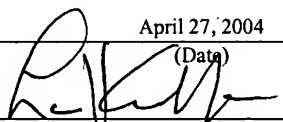
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : James Douglas Cline)
Appl. No. : 10/696,110)
Filed : October 29, 2003)
For : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR)
MARINE VESSEL TRACKING)
SYSTEM)
Examiner : Michael J. Zanelli)

Group Art Unit 3661

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: United States Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

April 27, 2004

(Date)

Louis J. Knobbe, Reg. No. 18,780

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed April 13, 2004. The Examiner has required restriction to one of two inventions:

Group I (Claims 1-3), drawn to identifying ships that cause an environmental spill, classified in Class 701, subclass 2.1;

Group II (Claims 4 and 5), drawn to remote tracking to aid in search and rescue, classified in Class 701, subclass 117;

Group III (Claim 6) drawn to projecting the progress of a ship (ETA), classified in Class 701, subclass 204.

Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, to prosecute the claims directed to Group I, classified in Class 701, Subclass 21, in the present application. Please cancel Group II and III (Claims 4, 5 and 6). Applicant reserves the right pursue the nonelected claims in one or more

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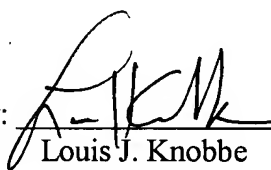
continuing applications. Accordingly, prompt examination on the merits of pending Claims 1-3 is respectfully requested.

If the Examining Attorney has any questions, Applicant respectfully requests that he contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: April 27, 2004

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